

## **Childers: Taxes Cut for 99% of Mississippians in 2009**

### ***New Report by Citizens for Tax Justice Shows that 99 Percent of Working Families and Individuals in Mississippi Paid Lower Taxes in 2009***

April 13, 2010

Washington, DC – Continuing his efforts to reduce the tax burden shouldered by working families across Mississippi, U.S. Rep. Travis Childers (MS-01) today applauded a report that 99% of working families and individuals in Mississippi benefited from at least one of the tax cuts enacted by Congress and signed into law under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

“Helping hard-working families in Mississippi shoulder the burden of today’s tough economic times is my top priority,” Childers said. “I was proud to vote for one of the largest tax cuts in American history under the Recovery Act, and I will continue fighting to provide tax relief for the people of Mississippi.”

The new report, issued by Citizens for Tax Justice, a public policy organization specializing in federal tax issues, found that working individuals and families in Mississippi received, on average, \$1,023 from four tax breaks enacted by Congress and signed into law in 2009. These four tax breaks benefited working people at all income levels, making up a total of 99% percent of working families and individuals in Mississippi.

To find out what tax cuts you may qualify for, check the White House online tax calculator by [cl](#)

[licking here](#)

. Key Tax Savings facts are below. Also, to see just how working families and individuals in our state benefited from recent tax cuts,

[click here](#)

.

## **Tax Savings – By the Numbers**

\$160 Billion - Tax relief provided through the Recovery Act so far to families and businesses.

Nearly \$100 Billion - Tax relief provided through the Recovery Act so far that has gone directly in the pockets of working families.

Nearly \$3,000 - The record average tax refund taxpayers are seeing this tax season.

Nearly 10% - The percentage average tax refunds are up this year - something the IRS says is largely due to Recovery Act tax credits.

36% - The percentage of taxpayers that have not yet filed their federal income tax returns and should be aware of the Recovery Act tax credits they may be eligible for.

64% - The percentage of taxpayers who have already filed their taxes, but can still amend them after April 15th to collect on any Recovery Act credits they may have missed.

95% - The percentage of working families benefiting from the Recovery Act's Making Work Pay tax credit, making it the broadest tax credit in the history of the country.

\$800 - The amount most married couples are collecting through their paychecks this year thanks to the Recovery Act's Making Work Pay tax credit. Individuals collected \$400 this year thanks to Making Work Pay.

Up to \$2,500 - The expanded amount eligible taxpayers can collect with the American Opportunity Credit to help cover college expenses thanks to the Recovery Act.

Up to \$8,000 - The amount new homebuyers can collect this year for purchasing their first home thanks to the Recovery Act's expansion of the First-Time Homebuyers Tax Credit.

Up to \$1,500 - The amount homeowners can collect this year on improvements made to their homes like energy-efficient windows, doors and insulation thanks to Recovery Act tax credits.

\$2,400 - The amount of 2009 unemployment benefits that taxpayers do NOT have to pay taxes on this year thanks to the Recovery Act.

Over \$600 - The increase in Earned Income Tax Credit a single parent of three children making \$15,700 in 2009 would collect this year thanks to the Recovery Act.

65% - The amount by which the Recovery Act cut the cost of COBRA health insurance premiums for unemployed workers last year through an up-front tax credit.

700,000 - The number of new homeowners who qualified for the First-Time Homebuyers Tax Credit through the Recovery Act in 2009.

*A pro-gun, pro-life Mississippian, Congressman Travis Childers (D-MS) represents the First Congressional District in North Mississippi. He is a member of the fiscally conservative Blue Dog Coalition and serves on the House Agriculture and Financial Services Committee. Congressman Childers co-chairs the reestablished bipartisan Congressional Rural Caucus and was appointed to the bipartisan Second Amendment Task Force. For more information, visit [www.childers.house.gov](http://www.childers.house.gov)*

.

# # #